Public Comments Received for Case Number: 2025-00113
Response Friday, November 14, 2025

Thank you for your comments. Your comments in the above referenced matter have been received and will be placed into the case file for the Commission's consideration. Please cite the case number in this matter,2025-00113 in any further correspondence.

The documents in this case are available at:View Case Filings for: 2025-00113 (ky.gov).

Thank you for your comments. Your comments in the above referenced matter have been received

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Received through Public Comments Thursday, November 13, 2025

From: Betty George
City: Russell Springs
State: KY
Zip: 42642

Comments:
Dear Commissioners,

I am writing as a concerned ratepayer to express strong opposition to the proposed rate increases by Kentucky Utilities (KU) and Louisville Gas Electric (LGE) outlined in the 2025 Stipulation and Recommendation.

While the settlement reduces the utilities' original requests, it still represents tens of millions of dollars in new annual costs for Kentuckians. It is clear from the extensive filings and the number of powerful corporate and governmental entities involved that this case is about far more than a simple rate increase. It's about large corporations and industrial interests negotiating terms that work best for them, while everyday Kentuckians are left to shoulder the burden.

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1. Growth of Data Centers and Large Industrial Loads

Kentucky's utilities are aggressively expanding to serve massive, energy-hungry data centers and industrial users. These facilities consume staggering amounts of power, driving up overall infrastructure and generation costs. Yet they often receive discounted or specially structured rates, meaning those costs are ultimately shifted to residential and small-business consumers.

The PSC should not approve rate structures that allow billion-dollar corporations to enjoy cheap power while families and small businesses pay for the infrastructure required to support them. Large customers must cover the full costs of their expansion — not the ratepayers who see no direct benefit from it. Please learn from what is happening in the north eastern united states and their rising utility costs after data centers have setup shop. These data centers require massive amounts of electricity to run, and do not provide any increase in long term jobs as most data centers are self operating once up and running with minimal onsite human oversite (jobs).

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2. Shifting Corporate and Climate Risk to Consumers

KU and LGE continue to pass along the costs of storm recovery and system restoration to their customers — expenses that should be covered by insurance and shareholder responsibility, not by ratepayers. These are insurable business risks, not public obligations.

Everyday Kentuckians are already struggling with rising insurance premiums and higher living costs, yet these monopoly utilities are guaranteed nearly 10% profits (9.9% ROE) regardless of performance. Before burdening consumers, the Commission should require proof that:
- The utilities have pursued all valid insurance claims for storm-related damages, and
- Their insurance carriers have been held accountable before those costs are passed on to the public.

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3. Infrastructure Upgrades That Lead to Permanent Price Increases

The utilities justify much of this rate hike by citing the need for infrastructure upgrades. While modernizing the grid is necessary, these increases become permanent — they do not decrease once the projects are complete or the expenses are recovered.

This means ratepayers continue to pay higher bills indefinitely, even after the upgrades that justified the increases are long finished. The PSC should require temporary or declining-rate structures for one-time capital improvements, not permanent increases that serve as a backdoor for continuous revenue growth.

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4. Lack of Real Consumer Protections

The “stay-out” clause included in this settlement is presented as a safeguard against frequent rate hikes, but in reality, it allows KU and LGE to continue raising bills through surcharges, cost-recovery riders, and new adjustment clauses — all outside of a formal rate case.

This structure gives consumers no real stability or transparency, while the utilities enjoy automatic cost recovery and guaranteed returns.
True consumer protection would mean:
- Capping total annual bill increases for households;
- Requiring utilities to share in financial risk; and
- Mandating full public review before any new cost-recovery mechanisms take effect.

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5. Fairness and Accountability

The Commission’s duty is to ensure that rates are fair, just, and reasonable.

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Received through Public Comments Thursday, November 13, 2025

From: Matt George
City: Russell Springs
State: KY
Zip: 42642

Comments:
Dear Commissioners,

I am writing as a concerned ratepayer to express strong opposition to the proposed rate increases by Kentucky Utilities (KU) and Louisville Gas Electric (LGE) outlined in the 2025 Stipulation and Recommendation.

While the settlement agreement reduces the original request, it still represents tens of millions of dollars in new costs each year for Kentuckians. It is clear from the extensive filings and the sheer number of corporate and governmental entities involved that this case is about far more than just a simple rate increase. This is about large corporations and industrial customers negotiating what works best for them, while everyday Kentuckians are left to pick up the tab.

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1. Growth of Data Centers and Large Industrial Loads

Kentucky’s utilities are increasingly serving energy-intensive data centers and other large industrial users. These customers often receive custom rates or favorable terms, while their enormous energy demands drive up overall grid and generation costs. Those costs are then passed down to residential and small-business consumers through rate hikes like this one.

The PSC should not approve rate structures that let billion-dollar companies benefit from cheap, reliable power while shifting the true cost of their operations onto working families. New large-scale customers must be required to pay the full cost of the infrastructure they depend on. Review energy costs in the north east where data centers have setup shop and learn from them.

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2. Shifting Corporate and Climate Risk to Consumers

KU and LGE continue to offload the financial impact of storms, restoration, and system repairs onto ratepayers. These are insurable business risks that utility shareholders and their insurance providers should bear — not the public.

Consumers are already dealing with rising insurance premiums and higher costs across the board. It's unreasonable for monopoly utilities to expect guaranteed profits of nearly 10% (9.9% ROE) while refusing to manage their own risks responsibly.
Before allowing these costs to be passed through, the Commission should require the utilities to prove:
• They have pursued all insurance recovery options for storm-related damages, and
• They have held their insurance partners accountable before asking ratepayers to bail them out.

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3. Lack of Real Consumer Protections

The settlement's "stay-out" clause sounds protective on paper, but it allows KU and LGE to keep raising bills through surcharges, cost-recovery riders, and new adjustment clauses — all without filing a new rate case.
This means consumers could still see their bills climb year after year, while the utilities enjoy automatic cost recovery and guaranteed profits.

Real protection for Kentucky families would include:
• A cap on total annual bill increases for residential customers;
• Shared risk between ratepayers and shareholders; and
• Transparent public oversight of all new "adjustment mechanisms."

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4. Fairness and Accountability

The Commission's duty is to ensure that rates are fair, just, and reasonable.
It is neither fair nor reasonable to approve increases that:
• Reward utilities and major industrial customers with preferential treatment;
• Shift private corporate and weather-related risks onto ratepayers; and
• Place an ever-growing burden on households already struggling with rising costs.

This settlement reflects a negotiation among large institutions, not a protection of the public interest. Until KU and LGE demonstrate true cost discipline, fair treatment across all customer classes, and accountability for how funds are used, this proposal should be rejected or significantly reduced.

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Respectfully submitted, Matt George

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